



# Howard County Council

George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

## COUNCILMEMBERS

Jon Weinstein, Chairperson  
District 1  
Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson  
District 2  
Jennifer Terrasa  
District 3  
Mary Kay Sigaty  
District 4  
Greg Fox  
District 5

**Monthly Meeting**  
Howard County Council  
July 10, 2017  
C. Vernon Gray Room  
8:30 a.m.

### Minutes (approved)

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

Members Present: Jon Weinstein, Chairperson; Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson; Greg Fox; Mary Kay Sigaty; Jen Terrasa.

Staff Present: Jessica Feldmark, Council Administrator; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; John Gwynn, Assistant County Solicitor

### Council Bill 60-2017 (ZRA 180)

Val Lazdins, Geoff Gowens, Jeff Dannis, Dan Merson were present on behalf of the Administration to discuss the proposed legislation and answer questions from the Council. Mr. Lazdins provided an overview of the background and timeline leading to the development and introduction of ZRA180. Mr. Dannis provided an overview of State composting regulations. Deputy Chief Merson discussed Fire Code regulations and how Howard County's local regulations have been amended from the NFPA code. Mr. Gowens answered questions about zoning enforcement practices.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- What are the specific criteria that trigger the requirement for a farm to have a nutrient management plan?
- Which farms have their composting practices covered solely by a nutrient management plan and which need to have a permit?
- A map (or maps) of the full County to reflect the impact of CB60 showing which types of facilities would be allowed on which properties, taking into account the Fire Code as well as the zoning, and distinguishing among uses permitted by right, accessory uses, and conditional uses
- A map showing where CB60 would make changes and indicating what would change
- Clarification on all various forms of enforcement (zoning, fire, MDE, soil conservation, etc.) and the consequences for violations

- Clarification on the timing of various permits required – renewal/reapplication process, reporting requirements, and inspections
- Comparison of how Howard County's fines for zoning violations compare to other jurisdictions

#### Open Meetings Act Update

John Gwynn provided an update regarding legislation adopted by the General Assembly which requires each public body subject to the Act to designate at least one member to receive training. Mr. Weinstein agreed to attend the training at the summer MACo conference. Ms. Sigaty indicated that she will be completing the online training. Mr. Weinstein asked Ms. Feldmark to draft a letter designating Mr. Weinstein and Ms. Sigaty.

#### Council Member Reports

Mr. Weinstein did not have a Chairperson's report. Ms. Sigaty did not have a report from the Patuxent River Commission as they did not meet in June. Dr. Ball indicated that MACo would be meeting on Wednesday and he would provide an update following that meeting. Mr. Fox did not have a report from NACo.

#### Staff Reports

Ms. Feldmark referred to her written Administrator's report and offered to answer any questions. Mr. Glendenning referred to his written Auditor's report and added that his office had also completed the exit audit for Steve Bullock.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.